

**EDUCATION & YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
of the
Suffolk County Legislature**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Education & Youth Committee was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Auditorium at the William Rodgers Legislative Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on **June 19, 2001**, at 1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Vivian Fisher, Chairperson
Legislator Carpenter, Vice Chair
Legislator Jon Cooper
Legislator Brian Foley
Legislator Andrew Crecca

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Legislator Fred Towle

ALSO PRESENT:

Paul Sabatino, Legislative Counsel
Nicole DeAngelo, County Executive's Office
Tom Breeden, Suffolk County Community College
Tedd Godek, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Anne Martin, Department of Probation
Charles K. Stein, Suffolk County Community College
Eric Ricioppo, Suffolk County Community College
Michael Sacco, Suffolk County Community College
Dennis Wrynn, Suffolk County Community College
Jim Spero, Assistant Director, Budget Review Office
Barbara LoMorello, Aide to Legislator Jon Cooper
Elizabeth Nostrand, Aide to Legislator Vivian Fisher
Brook McMullen
All Interested Parties

Minutes taken and transcribed by Irene Kulesa, Legislative Secretary

(The meeting came to order at 1:40 P.M.)

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I will call the meeting to order and start with the Pledge of Allegiance.

SALUTATION

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Do we have any cards? Okay. Tom, you wanted to speak with us about anything? We're just going to give everyone a minute to fill out the cards. I don't think that they had filled out cards beforehand. Okay just because -- did you forget who you were? We have an identity issue here. Okay, we have a short agenda. So we're probably not going to have a very long meeting. I would like to ask the other members of the committee if they received the backup information from Mr. Wankel? I just got it today. Did you receive backup information regarding the RFP with the caterer for the --? Okay, so my office then will send it to your offices. Okay? I wasn't certain if you had gotten that. Elizabeth, would you make a note of that? Oh, did you bring it with you? Okay, here we go. There it is. So we'll make copies and distribute them to the members of the committee. Okay, Tom Breeden? Hi Tom.

MR. BREEDEN:

It's a pleasure to speak to you today. I'm here to support the budget transfer for the

renovation of the Smithtown Science Building. As you know, the original RFP, which quoted several years ago, excuse me, several things have happened. Not only the costs have gone up but the state of the art has increased as well. So we desperately need the money. We have some safety issues to address. We need sprinklers throughout the building. All of those -- I don't know that the original, Paul may know that the original renovations may have included sprinklers, I'm not sure. The bottom line is the building is forty years old has been fairly well built. It needs a lot of work, both in terms of safety, still an {un-air conditioned} building. The laboratories are hot when it's 80 degrees in July or the -- we need your help.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Is that 1590?

MR. BREEDEN:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes? Just wanted to double check.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

It is 1590.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

It is 1590, okay. Just double checked.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes it is 1590.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Mr. Breeden? Madam Chair, if I may ask?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Tom, can you come forward? We may have some questions for you.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Professor Breeden, a quick question here? In times past, we've discussed this particular Capital Budget item and how important it is to the Ammerman Campus and it's one of the signature buildings on the campus. Can you give us an idea of particularly how the laboratories, which really is the heart and soul, I would think of the Science Building. What improvements are in store for the laboratories that would encompass the increase in the overall cost of the project?

MR. BREEDEN:

The laboratories of all of the on line -- every lab will be able to access the -- for data collection, data acquisition. We have a fairly nice telescope for the building. But one of the problems with suburbia is there is a tremendous amount of light pollution. If you can download images in the real time, then you can actually rent time on telescopes and other parts of the country in --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

That's interesting.

MR. BREEDEN:

Very dark areas. It's even been talked of moving our telescope to the eastern campus and operating it there where you can download images and real time via the net. We need total renovations of some of the laboratories. As I said, we've done a pretty good job of maintaining those things. But as you know, there was an eight year period where we had

zero increases in the County and although that seems like ancient history, it takes a long time to recover from that kind of budget deprivation. So our equipment is serviceable. We still do a very good job in educating young people where our students prepare for other schools; they are as good or better than anyone else but we could do better. The bottom line is that's our mission is to do the best that we can for the taxpayers, not merely a good job. So we're looking to bring those laboratories pretty close to the state of the art.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I'm sorry, Tom but I'm not seeing it under 1590. I had read the bill before and I -- yes, I may just not have enough information. You're talking about science labs?

MR. BREEDEN:

Yes in the entire --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

In the Smithtown Science Building?

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Right here.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

In 1590, I might have missed it. I was looking at the narrative descriptions.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

It's right here.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

The Smithtown Science renovation. I see it. Okay, I see. No, it's a series of projects that are listed here and I missed it in the crowd. And I did want to tell you that Tom had expressed a concern regarding the engineering matriculation being suspended while the courses were -- the courses in the engineering core were being revised. Some of the courses were being revised. I did speak with President LaLima regarding this matter and he did indicate to me that the students could still take a variety of courses in engineering. But that the matriculation wasn't there because they couldn't get the State approval to have students matriculated without these particular courses being on line. So Tom, if we could explore these issues further?

MR. BREEDEN:

Surely.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, to look at what the State mandates are and what the matriculation requirements are by the State, SUNY system to look at those because there was tremendous support. And I want to congratulate your Engineering Programs, Doctor {Yakofshamush}, Dean of Engineering at Stony Brook University said that the students coming out of our program are very well prepared and that they're able to make a very smooth transition from Suffolk Community College to the State University of New York at Stony Brook. So I want to compliment you on a good program and I want to ensure that we do everything we can to support that program.

MR. BREEDEN:

I appreciate it because my fear is if we don't accept -- we have already a program that has all the State's accreditation. Now there is a need to change it because in the past, when we had more students, there were three tracks for engineering and we can't support that anymore. But there still is a program in place. My fear is if we don't accept applicants to matriculate for a year, it will take a lot of effort to get that program started again. And in Suffolk County, there are two schools that offer the engineering degrees, Stony Brook and Suffolk Community College. In an article several years ago in Newsday, I doubt it's gotten any better that for every three engineering jobs in Suffolk County, there's one applicant.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Um-um.

MR. BREEDEN:

The County of Suffolk needs engineers. The program isn't losing money. I still question the wisdom of not accepting students --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay and we will have some further discussions on that. Thank you Tom. Michael Sacca, already up here.

MR. SACCA:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Good afternoon.

MR. SACCA:

Good afternoon. My profound thanks for having me speak here today and I'm speaking on behalf of the Board of Trustees for Suffolk County Community College and in particular, a resolution that was laid on the table associated with transferring a hundred thousand dollars into the marketing account at the college.

I wanted to give you a brief overview of why we requested this and then have the opportunity to answer some questions that you may have. I've also asked people from the college to come, in order to support some of the information, since I may not have all the information that you may need but I hope that we'll be able to answer all of the questions you may have.

To give you a brief overview of why we're asking for this additional funds is that there has been a lot of controversy on the different types of advertising and marketing that the college has been undertaking, in order to reach out to the Suffolk County residents, in order to apprise them of the various courses and opportunities at Suffolk County Community College. One of the things that we did was speak to various people on this committee. We spoke to people on the Finance Committee and we also spoke to the Presiding Officer regarding this issue. We looked at it very seriously, internally at the college. We set up a sub-committee of trustees with some of the people at the college to address the issue and one of the things that we came up with was a different type of marketing approach and what we looked at was a direct mail piece, in order to disseminate information to the general public on the various courses and opportunity at Suffolk County Community College.

Unfortunately, there's an additional cost to that but we think there's an additional benefit and the additional benefit is to communicate with all of the people of Suffolk. And also, we feel that we should have greater attendance coming to Suffolk because of the hundred thousand represents approximately sixty thousand dollars in additional cost just for the direct mail. The other forty thousand is also for various marketing and advertising throughout the college. That primarily is the overview associated with the hundred thousand dollars.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I have a question. I really haven't had substantive conversations with you or any of the other members of the Board of Trustees regarding this advertising issue and I'm very concerned because in an operating budget, in that it seems to cut so many other areas. The one area that stood out is having the lion's share of increase was advertising. Why are we looking for additional funds in that area?

MR. SACCA:

Actually, maybe I can ask other people to come up. But my understanding was the marketing and advertising budget was cut in the last proposal for the budget a year ago, when we originally proposed the advertising.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

No but this is more recently. I'm talking about the proposed budget not last year's budget. It was increased. It was increased by a few hundred thousand dollars. Because it stood out in its -- as an anomaly, as far as I'm concerned, it was not cut.

MR. SACCA:

Okay, let me see if I can clarify it. I'm speaking about last years' budget that affects this year. This was the Year 2000, 2001 budget.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Um-um.

MR. SACCA:

The proposal that we put in --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I'm looking forward to the next year's budget.

MR. SACCA:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

It's the one I'm talking about and in the proposal; there is an increase in advertising by a few hundred thousand dollars for next year. Yes, it's a few hundred thousand dollar increase in marketing and what concerns me is that in so many other areas of the budget, they were cuts. And I think that the greatest marketing that we could do for an academic institution is to beef up what we're offering the students and not just the advertising of it. I really do want to have a serious conversation with you regarding this, because you said you reached out to members of the committee and I haven't sat down and spoken with you about this and I'm deeply concerned about it.

MR. SACCA:

Okay. Maybe if I can refresh your memory a little bit? I know that one of the trustees and myself met with you in your office, where we had some concerns pertaining to marketing.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Um-um.

MR. SAACA:

And at that particular time, I indicated to you that the marketing was affected. That we were going to look at different ways to approach it and that's what I was referring to.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Oh, it was that original meeting early on. But I would like to do it visavis the budget process.

MR. SACCA:

I have no problem doing that. The other thing is I'd like to see what the County Executive came out with after we submitted our budget because I don't know what the marketing line looks like. The other thing that we're impacted with was having a new facility and the field house. In order to market that, there was no funds associated with that and I believe that the next year's budget, we reflected what the dollars were associated with doing that also. The other thing is that we have to take a look at, if we do the direct marketing piece, it's going to be an additional expense that we have to take a look at.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay and these are very important issues and I think that they require very thoughtful consideration and certainly dialogues.

MR. SACCA:

Great and I'm willing to do that.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

With very specific -- because when you came to my office it was an introduction. It was general conversation. I really didn't see that as a specific issue centered conversation and I'm not trying to cast blame on you, I just don't feel that we explored this sufficiently for the kind of impact that I see on the budget.

MR. SACCA:

I'd be more than happy. We can set up meetings with the new committee that's formed and you will certainly have an invitation.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I'd like to do that.

MR. SACCA:

Yes and you know, we can get some greater insight and what we're proposing to do, in order to enhance the college, in order to get out the information to the population.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

When we set up a time and date for these meetings, if you don't mind, I'll just let the other members of the Education Committee know if they would like to bring in their schedules.

MR. SACCA:

I'd be more than happy to be invited to it, believe me.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, thank you.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Question by Legislator Crecca.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Thanks. On 1593, the hundred thousand dollars?

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

That is the sixty thousand that is for the direct mail campaign that you're speaking of?

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay. Now, this would amend this year's budget, correct?

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

The existing budget?

MR. SACCA:

Yes. One of the problems is this that we have to do the advertising now.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

That's what I thought.

MR. SACCA:

The fall semester and you know that becomes the impact.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay, I just wanted to make clear because maybe -- right, okay. Maybe after it was, I got confused. But in other words, this one is an immediate need, I assume?

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Because it has to be done -- if it doesn't get out this cycle, it won't get out until late August, which is too late for you, correct?

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay.

MR. SACCA:

We already went through a process, a bidding process with the County. We submitted to the County our request. They went out --

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

I got you. I'm sorry --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Well, make a point to sitting down between now and next Tuesday.

MR. SACCA:

That's correct.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, regarding this issue. Jim, did you want to answer that?

MR. SPERO:

I would. Just for the record, the County Exec's proposal for the Community College was released and the college requested one million and twenty three thousand dollars -- we're advertising. The County Executive gave them exactly a hundred thousand dollars less. So it's nine hundred and twenty three thousand. That hundred thousand could be related to this instant resolution here.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, thank you Jim.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Can I just? Maybe because I think I'm confused. So the hundred thousand dollars --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Is for this year.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Right, it's for this year. This is what we're going to be dealing with today?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

As opposed to -- I know it would be related somehow to next year's budget, okay. But this -- the idea is to try to move this today.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

This is on the --

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay, that's all.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Legislator Foley.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Thank you, Mr. Sacca. If we could have a more specific breakdown of the sixty and the forty? I see sixty for direct mail. What kind of direct mail program are you putting together and secondly, give us a detailed breakdown of how the forty thousand would be expended, if the Legislature approves the resolution? And do you have a written program that we could review as to how the monies are going to be utilized for marketing?

MR. SACCA:

We have that prepared for you right now, Mr. Foley. Dennis, I don't know if you want to give an overview but maybe we can have copies made up for --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

That would be helpful.

MR. SACCA:

For the Legislators that they can take a look at it? I can tell you this; the sixty thousand is specifically expenditure for the direct mail piece.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Right.

MR. SACCA:

So I --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

I understand that. Madam Chair, Mr. Sacca has a written breakdown as to how this program -- and I would like to take a look at it. We all, particularly this time of year, we all, in our own ways, are interested in direct mail programs.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

But we'd like -- just also see more from, let's say a peer review to see how you intend to send out this -- your target -- what demographic group, what age group or geographic area, so that we're better informed before we vote on this particular resolution.

MR. SACCA:

Maybe I can just answer that.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Sure.

MR. SACCA:

And what we're looking at is every household in Suffolk County. Every taxpayer in Suffolk County is entitled to access into Suffolk County Community College. One of the problems that I saw was that we were not giving the taxpayers, the availability of knowing what was available to them in this County and that was one of the reasons why we looked at a direct mail piece to every household.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Yes that was -- I was saying earlier, if I just can? One of the things I had mentioned last year and other Legislators, not just myself, but was that I think I'd rather see direct mail than just through one median, like Suffolk Life. The direct mail would guarantee that every taxpayer would have the information and every resident would have the information.

MR. SACCO:

That's correct.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Does the direct mail list the courses?

MR. SACCO:

I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

As they do in Suffolk Life?

MR. SACCO:

No, the direct mail is going as a direct mail piece, a separate piece. There's not going to be inserted into --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

No, what I'm asking is what the content -- I'm following up on --

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

A sample, right of the content?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I'm asking about the content of the direct mail piece?

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Does it have the course listings is what they --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes.

MR. RICIOPPO:

Course listing?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

There are course listings. That was my question.

MR. RICIOPPO:

In the past, what we've done is -- well during this time, we put in the continuing Ed and the evening course schedule. What we've done this time is combine also the day course offerings.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

That's good.

MR. RICIOPPO:

So every resident in Suffolk County will receive a brochure. It's going to be 88 pages and it

will contain the day courses, evening and continuing Ed.

CHAIRMAN FISHER:

Good.

MR. RICIOPPO:

It will have a color cover a two-color cover. A little bit heavier stock than the inside, which will be done on newsprint.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

When is that -- assuming we pass this today and it passes on Tuesday, when would that -- when do you anticipate that would hit a - -?

MR. RICIOPPO:

Mid-July.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay. That's great. Then you think that will help boost attendance in the fall semester?

MR. RICIOPPO:

Yes, we think it will definitely help.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

If I could?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

And Jim, thank you for that information regarding the upcoming budget, because that does allay some of my concerns. Because if we -- with regard to the County Executive's recommendations, on that budget. Thank you. I hadn't picked up on that there. Legislator Carpenter.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

I just wanted to make sure I understood you correctly. You said this is an 88-page booklet with more of a substantial kind of cover?

MR. RICIOPPO:

Correct.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

So it seems to me that this truly is a worthwhile investment, because the likelihood of someone tossing something like that is not going to be as great as it would be if it were newsprint. That this would be something that they would keep and even if they don't sign up for a course now, it would be the kind of coffee table book or something that goes with the rest of the magazines that would be kept and referred to in the future and encourage people to take courses down the road or encourage others to do so.

MR. RICIOPPO:

Sure and we'll --

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

It sounds like you're really heading in the right direction.

MR. RICIOPPO:

What we would like to do is continue it as well. You know Legislator Carpenter; you've had a pretty extensive background in marketing. We don't like to stop, start and do things and pick off a menu. We like to try to come up and sustain programs, so we can measure them after a while. So we had done the other piece, the advertising piece for a while and now we're just looking to switch and see what response we can get using this. So we're planning to do it for several semesters.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

And also too, with advertising and marketing, it is something that you have to do over the long haul and it has to be multifaceted. It's not a one shot. There's not one magic bullet for getting your message out but rather a variety of techniques. So it sounds good.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Thank you very much. Okay, another question? Legislator Cooper.

LEGISLATOR COOPER:

I just had a couple questions. First of all, can you just clarify for me the six hundred and also plan completely the advertising that we do through Suffolk Life?

MR. RICIOPPPO:

Correct. The only thing that we're planning for any of the publications, we have a small amount of money remaining in our budget, which we would probably use for some small ads in both Newsday and Suffolk Life, maybe little quarter pages. But there's only about forty thousand dollars that we have remaining. We really had suggestions by other Legislators. We've geared more toward electronic media and that's what we're planning to do mostly this summer. Heavy in electronic media and very light in print media.

LEGISLATOR COOPER:

And also, do you have a system in place for you to track reader inquiries, so you know what the response was to this mailing? The direct mailing as opposed to the response last year from the Suffolk Life advertising?

MR. RICIOPPPO:

With the direct mail, it's a little bit more difficult. Anytime someone enrolls, we ask if they've gotten the information from friends, relatives, we try to track where they've received it. Usually with ads, we try a little bit more. We're specific when we do program ads and we say contact. We usually put a dedicated telephone number in there. It gives us an idea, if we're doing print advertising, where they've seen it. Or we're doing electronic media where they've viewed it. We do the same thing with the open house ads as well. Once they come on to the campus and they sign up; we ask them how did they hear about us.

LEGISLATOR COOPER:

So it probably would be harder for you to track the -- confirm the efficacy of this then in the past.

MR. RICIOPPPO:

Yes, we expected to have both a direct response but also an ancillary benefit as well, as Legislator Carpenter said, just by getting the name out there and seeing another brochure. But you're right, it is very difficult to measure dollar for dollar for that type of response.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Eric, I have a question about the breakdown we just received? Where is this reflected in?

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

The direct mail, I think, she's talking about.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

The direct mail. Where are you reflected here?

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Is it in the --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Because maybe we don't know how to read what you gave us.

MR. WRYNN:

In the two forty.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

It's in that two hundred forty thousand?

MR. WRYNN:

Under August?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes.

MR. WRYNN:

Which is fall course scheduling incumbent estimate.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Yes.

MR. WRYNN:

That's the two hundred and forty thousand dollars we need to publish that this year. We have certain amount of monies already set aside before it but this is an increase in cost.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, so there's a shortfall you're saying in that print, if you're going to do a direct mail? So then, I'm assuming the forty thousand dollars would be to cover the shortfall of the --

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Hundred thousand.

MR. WRYNN:

Sixty.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Sixty.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Sixty oh okay.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

The sixty is for the mail. Where is that?

MR. WRYNN:

What that is, the forty --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

And the forty is what I'm trying to ask -- is where is the forty thousand going?

MR. WRYNN:

Forty thousand would go to print advertising in mainly in Newsday and in Suffolk Life.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Right here, the last line?

MR. WRYNN:

Yes, um-um.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay, so the forty thousand isn't for the direct mail?

MR. WRYNN:

No.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

That's separate. Okay, so the sixty thousand dollars is the total cost of that direct mail increase.

MR. SACCO:

In other words, if I may? What we initially did, when they put the budget together is that they developed a marketing plan for the entire year on what the cost was. When we pulled out the insert from Suffolk Life, it cost us more to do the direct mail, yet we had a benefit of reaching more people. So therefore, what we looked at was the benefit of doing that and that's why we're here today to request approval in this expenditure.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay. Thank you very much. Are there any other questions? Legislator Foley.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Thank you, Madam Chair. If we can go back for a moment to the fall course schedule of two hundred and forty thousand that's been encumbered. That two forty includes the sixty thousand? Or that's additional money to the two forty?

MR. WRYNN:

It includes.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

It includes. Pardon?

MR. WRYNN:

That includes it.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Okay. Now, could you explain to us why is there a shortfall in this particular area and in answering to that, could you also give us some explanation? It's my understanding that we had approved what, six hundred and sixty thousand dollars for advertising for this year?

MR. SACCA:

Six hundred and five thousand and maybe I can answer your question, Mr. Foley.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Right.

MR. SACCA:

The reason for the shortfall is that if we advertised, as we did previously in Suffolk Life, there would not be a shortfall.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Right.

MR. SACCA:

The dollars associated with that was dollars that could be expended by moving the different types of marketing to a direct mail; there was an additional cost.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Okay and this was developed earlier in the year? This mail program?

MR. SACCA:

I'm sorry.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Was this developed earlier in the year, this direct mail program?

MR. SACCA:

We looked at it since April, to see what we could do. First, we looked at it for the summer courses and because of the time element for the County to go through their process; we could not do it or meet the time schedule for the summer courses. So we looked at it realistically for the fall and that's when we went through this process and it was started in April. It was finalized, I would say, maybe three or four weeks ago with the Purchasing Department. That was now under, I guess, Public Works.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

So the total, through the Chair, for the next several months is three hundred and seventy seven thousand, six hundred and forty two. That would leave in, let's say, in rough terms and correct me if I'm wrong, roughly two, let's just round it off to two hundred and twenty, two hundred and twenty one thousand dollars. It would get us up to this 605 number, correct? On 220?

MR. RICIOPPO:

Just on our previous expenses?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Yes. The yearly was 605. So you had 220 prior to that. Was all that expended or some of those monies -- what happened to those monies? Say in rough terms, two twenty eight?

MR. WRYNN:

With the fiscal year that began in last September.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Right.

MR. WRYNN:

We expended two hundred and twenty seven thousand, six hundred dollars on advertising expenditures through December. I'm sorry, through the end of April of this year. We had publication expenditures of another ninety one thousand for a total of three hundred and nineteen thousand, two hundred and sixty dollars out of our planned budget of six hundred and seven. So now we're looking to spend the additional -- what we have left is what we're into now in the numbers that I just gave you on that sheet that you all have there.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Right.

MR. WRYNN:

So we had expended three hundred and nineteen thousand, two hundred dollars out of our six hundred and seven -- seven hundred dollars.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Does that answer your question, Brian?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Partly. Okay. If we could have a breakdown? I'm sure it's going to be reported out of committee but I'd like to see a breakdown of the 319 as to the areas that it was utilized for. That would be helpful. You have the breakdown here now in advertising and this is very helpful. But if I could also see a 319, that would be helpful for me as well. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Thank you, Legislator Foley. Are there any other questions? Are there any other cards submitted to the clerk? No. All right, we will move to the agenda then. 1497.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Legislator Cooper has just stepped out. You want us to call him?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Legislator Cooper, if you could return to the horseshoe? We're beginning to look at the agenda. You know what? We'll let him vote when he comes back.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

I have a question on this 1497 anyway.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

If you could come back, there's a question on 1497.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Whoever can answer the question on the Internet courses, the resolution 1497, on the agenda here?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I was going to table it.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Okay, good. Well, maybe we may do something more meaningful.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Meaningful with it. Let's say we'll subject to call?

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

I'm going to make a motion table subject to call.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

For 1497. I have a basic disagreement with our establishing academic courses at the college. I don't believe that that's the purview of the Legislature.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

I'll second the motion agreeing with Legislator Fisher on that.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay. All in favor? Opposed? 1497 is tabled subject to call.

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS:

I.R. NO. 1497-01 Directing Suffolk County Community College to develop Internet courses at Suffolk County Community College. (Legislator Michael Caracciolo)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 TABLED SUBJECT TO CALL

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Do you need another agenda?

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

I got it. I just took Angie's.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay 1558 amending the 2001 Operating Budget and transferring funds in the Youth Bureau from National Council of Negro Women, Inc., to Riverhead Community Awareness Program, Inc., to provide a Youth Service Program. I make a motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR COOPER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Seconded by Legislator Cooper.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

On the motion? I read the bill. Does anyone know anything about this? The program that's being replaced and the program that's doing the replacing?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Paul, do you know about the programs? It just seems like it was one youth.

MR. SABATINO:

The program that's being replaced was very forthright in their letter. They said they simply exceeded their capacity. They thought they could do the job but they no longer can. So they're asking to be basically terminated. It's unusual for an agency to be that direct and forthright. So they could no longer perform the function. This new organization will replace them and that's as much as I know.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Okay and actually I see the backup letter, which I did not see before. So that explains a lot and I'm sorry that --

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

It's okay with us. That's what we're here for. Okay, there's a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? 1558 is approved.

I.R. NO. 1558-01 Amending the 2001 Operating Budget and transferring funds in the youth Bureau from National Council of Negro Women, Inc., to Riverhead Community Awareness Program, Inc., to provide a Youth Service Program. (County Executive)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 APPROVED

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

1591 amending the 2001 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating planning funds for the construction of a children's shelter in Yaphank.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Seconded by Legislator Carpenter. All in favor? Opposed? 1591 is approved.

I.R. NO. 1591-01 Amending the 2001 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating Planning Funds for the construction of a Children's Shelter, Yaphank. (CP 3012) (Legislator Andrew Crecca)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 APPROVED

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

1593.

LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Motion by Legislator Carpenter.

LEGISLATOR COOPER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Seconded by Legislator Cooper.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Just on the motion, if I may?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

On the motion.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

If we could have Mr. Sacca come back to the table please?

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Mr. Sacca?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Mr. Sacca, we all would like to see an increase in the number of students attending the college. Is it not a fact that there has already been proposed cuts to the sections of classes for next fall? Have there or have there not been sections closed or cut for next fall? And the reason I ask -- let me tell you why I'm asking the question.

MR. SACCA:

Go ahead.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

I'm asking the question because if, in fact and I believe it is the case, that a significant number of sections of classes have been cut in the fall and this marketing program is successful as you would hope it would be, it would be in the delicate situation of increasing the number of students to the college and yet there would be less and less sections that the students could take?

MR. SACCA:

I agree with you totally. It's like a catch 22 situation. You know, how do you get your arms around it and how do you make it right? I think this is the first way, in order to, you know develop that particular need basis and I don't know any other way in order to do it. I would like to have as many sections as possible. I would like to have more faculty. I would like to have more money. I would like to do what the right thing is for the college and the people of Suffolk County. This proposal is hopefully the first step in order to achieve that.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

But if, in fact, it succeeds by recruiting, if you will, or attracting more students to attend the college, how's the college going to come to grips with the cuts in sections that has already made in the fall?

MR. SACCA:

I don't know the answer to that. The only thing I can do is address it when we do have those people coming in, looking for sections and I can assure you, everything in my power, I will certainly do, in order to accommodate the people.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

There's a motion to approve and a second. All in favor? Opposed? 1593 is approved.

I.R. NO. 1593-01 Amending the 2001 Operating Budget transferring funds from the general fund to the Community College Fund for advertising. (County Executive)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 APPROVED

MR. SACCA:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

1590 authorizing amendment of the Suffolk County Community College Capital Projects Funding Schedule.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Motion to approve.

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Okay. Motion by Legislator Crecca, seconded by Legislator Foley. I just realized it -- was it approved in prime?

LEGISLATOR FOLEY:

Public Works is tomorrow, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Oh, thank you. All in favor? Opposed? 1590 is approved.

NON-PRIME INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS:

I.R. NO. 1590-01 Authorizing amendment of the Suffolk County Community College Capital Projects Funding Schedule. ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND EDUCATION & YOUTH. (County Executive)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 APPROVED

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Sense resolution. A motion to table by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed? 36-2001 is tabled.

SENSE RESOLUTION:

NO. 36-2001 Memorializing resolution requesting State of New York to appeal school aid decision. (Legislator Michael Caracciolo)

VOTE: 5-0-0-1 TABLED

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Jim?

MR. SPERO:

Just mention for the record, on I.R. 1591 the title should read that it's appropriating funds for site improvements. The title reads planning. So that should be changed.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

My understanding was it was done, right?

MR. SABATINO:

The actual resolution has been done in the computer. This sheet was typed before that was done.

LEGISLATOR CRECCA:

Right, we made that change right before the deadline to amend.

CHAIRPERSON FISHER:

Is there anyone who has any further business or questions for this committee? There being none, I move to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed? The meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

(The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.)

{ } Denotes spelled phonetically